

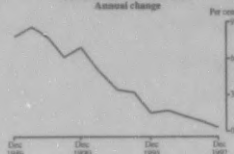
Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 4 February 1993

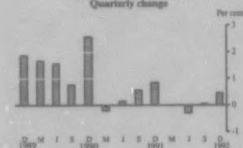
The week in statistics ...

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
Annual change



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
Quarterly change



Annual CPI change the lowest for 30 years

The 'All Groups' Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 0.5 per cent between the September and December quarters 1992, resulting in an annual increase (December quarter 1992 on December quarter 1991) of 0.3 per cent — the lowest annual movement since March quarter 1963 (0.3%).

The low annual movement recorded this quarter reflects a number of influences, the most important of which were as follows.

Mortgage interest charges have fallen by 17.2 per cent since December quarter 1991, mainly because of a fall in mortgage interest rates of 22.0 per cent. Consumer credit charges have fallen by 11.1 per cent, mainly due to a fall in consumer interest rates of 12.9 per cent. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices have fallen by 10.2 per cent. The cost of holiday travel and accommodation overseas has fallen by 9.4 per cent, mainly due to reductions in airfares and prices of package tours.

The most significant upward influences were exerted by cigarettes and tobacco prices (up 19.3%), petrol (up 2.9%) and education fees (up 7.8%).

The four groups having the most influence on the quarterly change in the all groups index were tobacco and alcohol (up 2.7%), food (up 0.7%), recreation and education (up 1.0%), and housing (down 0.6%).

The tobacco and alcohol group is the largest contributor to the change in the all groups index this quarter, largely due to an increase in cigarette and tobacco prices of 7.1 per cent. Cigarette and tobacco prices increased in all cities, ranging from 2.9 per cent in Melbourne to 36.9 per cent in Brisbane. The large increase in Brisbane is a result of a significant increase (from 30% to 75%) in the State Tobacco Licensing Fee from 1 October.

The decrease in housing costs results from a fall in mortgage interest charges (down 3.1%) partially offset by an increase in local government rates and charges.

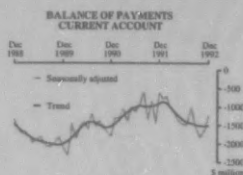
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, DECEMBER QUARTER 1992

Weighted average of eight capital cities

Percentage change

Group	From previous quarter	From corresponding quarter of previous year
Tobacco and alcohol	2.7	7.6
Transportation	0.0	1.5
Health and personal care	1.1	1.5
Recreation and education	1.0	1.3
Clothing	1.1	1.2
Food	0.7	1.1
Household equipment and operation	0.1	-0.2
Housing	-0.6	-6.4
All groups	0.5	0.3
All groups excluding housing	0.7	1.6
All groups excluding tobacco and alcohol	0.3	-0.3

For further information, order the publication Consumer Price Index (6401.0), or contact Bohdan Stankewytsch on (06) 252 6251.



Lower imports reduce deficit

Seasonally adjusted, Australia's balance of payments current account deficit for December 1992 fell \$406 million (25%) to \$1,221 million.

The decrease in the deficit was mainly caused by a turnaround of \$366 million, from a deficit to a surplus of \$353 million, in the merchandise trade balance. Merchandise exports rose 2 per cent and merchandise imports fell 6 per cent. A fall of \$85 million (6%) in the net income deficit and an increase of \$18 million (14%) in the net unrequited transfers surplus also contributed to the fall in the overall deficit. Partly offsetting these movements was an increase of \$63 million in the net services deficit.

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
CURRENT ACCOUNT**
\$ million

	November 1992		December 1992	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
Balance on merchandise trade	- 222	- 13	617	353
Net services	- 234	- 327	- 285	- 390
Balance on goods and services	- 456	- 340	332	- 37
Net income	- 1,376	- 1,413	- 1,291	- 1,328
Net unrequited transfers	136	126	145	144
Balance on current account	- 1,696	- 1,627	- 814	- 1,221

Merchandise exports in original terms rose \$268 million, or 5 per cent, to \$5,397 million, the highest monthly level recorded to date.

Non-rural exports rose \$220 million, or 6 per cent, to \$3,839 million. The largest increases in this category were in:

- ☐ metal ores and minerals, up \$166 million or 28 per cent;
- ☐ gold, up \$84 million or 20 per cent;
- ☐ coal, coke and briquettes, up \$69 million or 12 per cent; and
- ☐ 'other' metals, up \$67 million or 17 per cent.

Partly offsetting these rises were decreases in 'other' mineral fuels, down \$109 million or 27 per cent; machinery, down \$65 million or 15 per cent and 'other' non-rural, down \$28 million or 31 per cent.

Rural exports rose \$48 million, or 3 per cent, to \$1,558 million, with the largest rises recorded in:

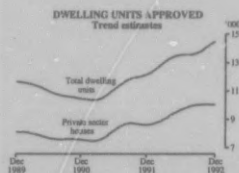
- ☐ 'other' rural, up \$29 million or 6 per cent; and
- ☐ sugar, up \$24 million or 28 per cent.

Merchandise imports in original terms fell \$571 million, or 11 per cent, to \$4,780 million. The largest decrease was in machinery, down \$497 million, or 27 per cent, on the November figure which had included structural components for the Goodwyn A offshore production platform and the OPTUS B1 satellite. Other falls were recorded in 'other' manufactures, down \$105 million; civil aircraft, down \$41 million; and textiles, fabrics etc., down \$34 million.

The largest increases occurred in metals and metal manufactures, up \$54 million, or 22 per cent; road vehicles, up \$49 million, or 10 per cent; and 'other' imports, up \$34 million, or 15 per cent.

For further information, order the publication *Balance of Payments, Australia* (5301.0), or contact Marie Flint on (06) 252 5540 or Peter Morrow on (06) 252 6689.

Higher densities maintain growth in dwelling approvals



The trend in total dwelling unit approvals has continued to show strong growth with the availability of the December 1992 estimates. The 'private sector houses' component has, however, fallen by a small amount.

It is evident that growth in the trend for total approvals has been sustained by the continuing high levels for private 'other residential dwellings' and to a lesser extent for public sector approvals.

The trend growth in total approvals is such that it would require a decrease of 14.8 per cent in seasonally adjusted total dwelling units approved for January 1993 (almost three times the average monthly movement in the seasonally adjusted series) to cause the trend series to flatten out. However, for the private sector house component, it is not possible to determine what direction the trend will take.

Total dwelling unit approvals (seasonally adjusted), rose in all States except Victoria and Tasmania in December 1992. Growth was strong in Queensland (15.9%), South Australia (29.4%) and Western Australia (21.1%). There was a small fall in Victoria (1.0%) from the high base in November 1992.

The 4,423 dwelling units approved in New South Wales was the highest monthly level of approvals since March 1989, and the 4,295 dwelling units approved in Queensland was the highest since October 1988.

Total dwelling unit approvals rose in all States in the three months ended December 1992 when compared with the three months ended September.

In original terms, the total number of dwelling units approved in the six months ended December 1992 (85,356) was 16.8 per cent higher than the number for the corresponding period in 1991.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, DECEMBER 1992

	Number	Percentage change	
		From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Private sector houses			
Trend	10,025	-0.2	16.6
Seasonally adjusted	10,114	3.2	20.5
Original	9,476	-6.7	27.0
Total dwelling units			
Trend	14,468	1.8	19.1
Seasonally adjusted	15,181	7.8	24.2
Original	14,051	-3.8	31.1

Value of building approved

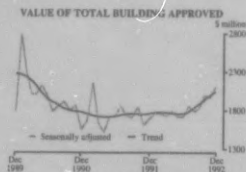
The provisional trend estimates for the value of total building approved continues to show moderate growth to December 1992, with all three components contributing to that growth.

The provisional trend series for the value of new residential approvals continues to display the slow growth evident in this series since March 1991. The value of alterations and additions to residential buildings also continues to display slow growth to December 1992, as it has done since January 1992.

The provisional trend series for the value of non-residential building approved to September 1992 continues to display signs of growth and indicates a probable turning point in June 1992. However, because of the volatile nature of the series, care needs to be taken in interpreting recent data.

VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, DECEMBER 1992

	\$ million	Percentage change	
		From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
New residential building			
Trend	1,165.3	1.2	19.4
Seasonally adjusted	1,199.3	4.0	23.1
Original	1,133.5	-3.7	30.0
Total building			
Trend	2,045.7	2.5	16.2
Seasonally adjusted	2,110.4	7.2	24.2
Original	1,987.7	-1.3	28.2



PRICES OF MATERIALS USED IN
MANUFACTURING
1984-85 = 100



Imports push up manufacturing materials prices

The price index of materials used in manufacturing industries increased by 0.1 per cent between October and November 1992. Imported materials prices increased by 0.6 per cent while prices for home produced materials decreased by 0.2 per cent.

The main contributors to the increase in imported materials prices were pulp, paper and materials made of paper, and 'other manufactured' materials.

The decrease in prices of home produced materials resulted mainly from lower prices for metal ores and concentrates, fish, prawns and lobsters, and live animals.

Over the year to November, prices of manufacturing materials increased by 6.1 per cent.

The table below summarises the price movements.

PRICE OF MATERIALS USED IN MANUFACTURING
NOVEMBER 1992
Percentage change

Source of material	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Imported	0.6	6.6
Home produced	-0.2	5.9
All manufacturing	0.1	6.1

For further information, order the publication *Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0), or contact Geoff Brown on (06) 252 5348.

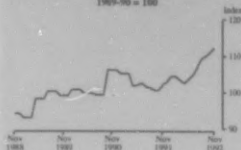
Import prices rise strongly

The Import Price Index rose by 1.2 per cent in November 1992.

The main contributors to the November price rise were machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods classified by material, and miscellaneous manufactured articles.

Between November 1991 and November 1992 the index increased by 10.0 per cent.

IMPORT PRICES
1989-90 = 100



Price changes for selected items are shown below.

IMPORT PRICES, NOVEMBER 1992

Percentage change

Selected groups of items	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Animal and vegetable oils, etc.	-1.1	15.1
Machinery and transport equipment	1.6	12.8
Crude materials	1.5	11.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1.2	10.8
Manufactured goods	1.3	6.7
Commodities and transactions	0.9	6.2
Mineral fuels, lubricants and other related materials	1.2	5.7
Beverages and tobacco	2.7	4.9
All items	1.2	10.0

For further information, order the publication *Import Price Index, Australia* (6414.0), or contact Geoff Brown on (06) 252 5348.

New text on statistical systems

"Statistics are too important to be left to the statisticians". The famous observation by Wassily Leontieff is the inspiration for a new Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publication titled *national Statistical Systems, A Guided Tour*.

The 232-page book discusses the nature, purposes, processes and content of national statistical systems. Beyond its relevance to the work of those involved directly in or with government statistical services, the book will be of interest to all who want to be better informed about the nature and state of society.

The *Guided Tour* deals with national statistical systems in a general and comparative way from a broad perspective of experience with national and international statistical agencies. It answers questions such as:

- ☐ How do national statistical information systems work?
- ☐ What is the logic of the classifications and definitions frameworks?
- ☐ How are the various statistical programs and sets of information related?
- ☐ How reliable are the statistical series?
- ☐ How do government statisticians establish their program priorities?
- ☐ How can required data be identified and extracted from the mass of data available?

The publication is suitable for use by a wide range of academic and government institutions both in Australia and overseas, as well as for in-house staff training for ABS and other Australian government agencies. Thus it aims to develop Leontieff's theme by encouraging broader community support into the development of national statistical systems.

The principal author is Ron Fergie, a former ABS officer. He was assisted by a number of current senior ABS statisticians.

For further information, order the publication *National Statistical Systems, A Guided Tour* (1133.0), or contact your nearest ABS bookshop (see page 11 for details).

School retention rates climb further

Preliminary results from the 1992 Australia-wide schools census show a continuation of the strong rise in apparent retention rates of students attending Year 12 schooling. The 1992 rate of 77.1 per cent compares with 71.3 per cent in 1991, 64.0 per cent in 1990 and 36.3 per cent a decade ago.

Increasing apparent retention rates have been a factor in the rise in full-time student numbers, which, between 1991 and 1992, rose by 23,829 (0.8%) to 3,098,966.

The census also shows 9,957 schools operating in July 1992, 23 fewer than in 1991. There were 7,448 government schools, a decline of 22 since 1991, while non-government schools numbered 2,509, one less than in 1991.

Over the year since the 1991 census, student numbers at government schools have risen by 16,857 (0.8%) to 2,234,083. At non-government schools there was a rise of 6,972 (0.8%) to 864,883.

The full-time equivalent of school staff in July 1992 totalled 249,655 — a rise of 3,296 since 1991. The percentage rise in full-time equivalent school staff in government schools was 1.3 per cent. In non-government schools, staff members increased by 1.5 per cent.

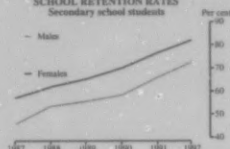
SCHOOLS, JULY 1992

Number	Government schools	Non-government schools	All schools
Schools	7,448	2,509	9,957
Students	2,234,083	864,883	3,098,966
Teaching staff (FTE)	147,845	54,221	202,066
Non-teaching staff (FTE)	33,403	14,186	47,589

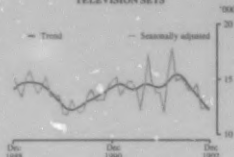
The annual schools census is the result of co-operation between the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Commonwealth, State and Territory education authorities through the Australian Education Council Schools Statistics Committee. More detailed information covering States and Territories will be published in *Schools Australia*. (4221.0).

For further information, order the publication *Schools, Australia, Preliminary* (4220.0), or contact John Sever on (06) 252 6304.

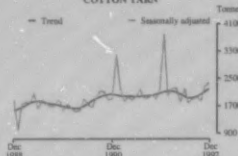
SCHOOL RETENTION RATES
Secondary school students



TELEVISION SETS



COTTON YARN



Manufacturing in December

The publication *Manufacturing Production, Australia, Preliminary (8301.0)* contains up-to-date time series data on the production of 27 major indicators of production (21 with up-to-date trend estimates). The indicator commodities have been selected to give a broad industry representation of the manufacturing sector and are part of a much larger range of commodity items published in the series of ten *Manufacturing Production Bulletins*.

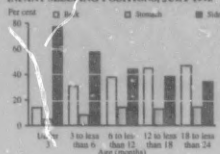
In the table below, ten items are showing an increase in trend over production levels twelve months earlier. Cotton yarn is showing steady growth, especially over the past few months. While chocolate based confectionery is showing an increase in trend production when compared with the same time last year, recent monthly data indicates a decline in production. Domestic washing machines and cigarettes and tobacco show a decreasing trend in production, with television sets showing a significant decline in production since April 1992.

Generally, the comparisons below of the trend estimate with the corresponding month of the previous year are a more reliable guide to longer term trends. They should, however, be read in conjunction with the recent monthly movement to give an indication of the current trend direction, and with the more detailed data presented in the monthly publications, as production of manufacturing commodities can vary quite significantly on a month-to-month basis.

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1992

Product	Percentage change in trend	
	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Sulphuric acid; oleum	2.3	16.6
Chocolate based confectionery	-0.6	3.4
Cotton yarn	3.2	6.0
Portland cement	0.4	5.9
Woven wool fabric (including blanketing)	2.8	4.7
Textile floor coverings	0.1	1.9
Iron and steel in ingots or other primary forms	0.7	1.8
Clay bricks	0.2	1.7
Electric motors	-0.2	1.5
Electricity	-0.2	0.6
Cars and station wagons	-1.8	-0.3
Wool yarn	1.1	-0.4
Gas available for issue through mains	-2.3	-1.3
Woven man-made fibre fabric	1.7	-1.7
Other confectionery	-0.6	-2.1
Beer	-1.3	-5.2
Blooms and slabs, from rolling and forging	-4.0	-5.6
Basic iron, spiegeleisen and sponge iron	-1.5	-6.1
Domestic clothes washing machines	-0.9	-8.0
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.3	-10.5
Television sets	-2.9	-13.6

INFANT SLEEPING POSITIONS, JULY 1992



ABS data to aid SIDS research

Research into Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) could benefit from Australian Bureau of Statistics data released from a survey of infant sleeping positions conducted during July 1992.

Medical research suggests that infants who sleep on their stomachs have a higher risk of SIDS death than those who sleep in other positions.

In 1991 there were 373 infant deaths registered in Australia which were attributed to SIDS. This figure represented 18 per cent of all deaths of children under the age of two registered in that year.

The results also disclosed that in the 10 years to 1991, 66 per cent of SIDS deaths occurred in the first four months of life and 96 per cent within the first year.

The survey found that 13 per cent or one in eight of Australian infants aged less than two are usually placed on their stomach to sleep. The proportions varied between States with the highest percentages being reported in the Northern Territory (27%) and Queensland (23%) and the lowest in Tasmania (5%) and NSW (9%).

The data shows the pattern of sleeping positions differed markedly according to the age of the child. The majority of very young infants (69% of those less than six months) were usually placed on their side to sleep while the proportion of those placed on their back or stomach increased with age.

Some 78 per cent of infants placed on their side to sleep usually changed position, compared with 76 per cent of those placed on their back, and 60 per cent of those placed on their stomach. Of those placed on their back, and who usually change position, 54 per cent change to their stomach whereas of those placed on their side and who usually change position, only 37 per cent change to their stomach.

INFANT SLEEPING POSITIONS, JULY 1992
(⁰⁰⁰⁰)

Position infant placed in to sleep	Position usually changes to				Don't know	Total
	Doesn't usually change position	Back	Stomach	Side		
Back	48.6	n.a.	83.9	61.0	9.3	202.7
Stomach	26.9	19.7	n.a.	13.9	2.6	68.1
Side	52.6	98.8	67.9	12.7	4.8	236.8
Don't know	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.2	3.2
Total	128.2	118.5	151.8	92.5	19.8	510.8

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- through its bookshops
- by mail order (including subscription)
- by facsimile
- electronically.

To order any of the publications mentioned in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

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Editor

(06) 252 6104

Statistics Weekly
4 February 1993

Order from the following:

Expected releases over the fortnight to 16 February

February

- 10 Retail Trade, Australia, December 1992 (8501.0; \$10.70)
- 11 The Labour Force, Australia, January 1993, Preliminary (6202.0; \$10.70)
- Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, November 1992, Preliminary (6301.0; \$10.70)
- 15 Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, December 1992 (6407.0; \$10.70)
- Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, December 1992 (6408.0; \$8.20)

Selected releases 27 January to 2 February

General

Australian Economic Indicators, January/February 1993 (1350.0; \$26.00)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, NSW, January 1993 (1305.1; \$14.30)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Vic., January 1993 (1303.2; \$10.70)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Qld, January-February 1993 (1304.3; \$9.70)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, WA, January 1993 (1305.5; \$11.00)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, SA, January 1993 (1303.4; \$10.00)
Tasmanian Statistical Indicators, January 1993 (1303.6; \$9.70)

Census of Population and Housing

1991 Census — Census Counts for Small Areas, ACT (2730.8; \$25.00) — new issue

Demography

Deaths, NSW, 1991 (3312.1; \$14.50)

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Private New Capital Expenditure, Aust., Actual and Expected Expenditure to June 1993, September Qtr 1992 Survey (5626.0; \$10.70)
Cash Management Trusts, Aust., December 1992 (5635.0; \$6.10)

Labour statistics and prices

Industrial Disputes, Aust., October 1992 (6321.0; \$10.70)

Agriculture

Livestock Products, Aust., December 1992 (7215.0; \$8.00)
Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Aust., First Preliminary, 1991-92 (7509.0; \$5.60)

Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service Industries, Building and Construction

Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Clothing and Footwear, November 1992 (8358.0; \$10.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Food, Drink, Tobacco, Stock and Poultry Food, November 1992 (8359.0; \$10.50)
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Fibres, Yarns, Fabrics, Bedding and Floor Coverings, November 1992 (8360.0; \$10.50)
Tourist Accommodation, NSW, September Qtr 1992 (8635.1; \$20.00)
Building Approvals, Vic., December 1992 (8731.2; \$10.70)
Building Activity, Qld, September Qtr 1992 (8752.3; \$10.70)
Building Approvals, WA, December 1992 (8731.5; \$10.70)
Building Approvals, SA, December 1992 (8731.4; \$10.70)
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, SA, November 1992 (8741.4; \$10.50)

Transport

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Qld, December 1992 (9303.3; \$10.50)

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
National accounts						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1984-85 prices	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	n.a.	65,307	0.5	2.1
International accounts						
Balance on current account (b)	Dec. 92	\$m	- 814	- 1,221	25	- 96
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	- 617	- 353	n.a.	- 37.5
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	- 332	- 37	89.1	n.a.
Merchandise exports	"	"	5,397	5,195	1.5	14.4
Merchandise imports	"	"	- 4,780	- 4,842	- 5.6	21.8
Net foreign debt	30 Sept. 92	\$m	162,841	n.a.	8.6	18.0
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	209,173	n.a.	5.2	12.4
Consumption and investment						
Retail turnover at 1984-85 prices	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	15,153	15,673	- 0.3	1.7
New capital expenditure at 1984-85 prices	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	4,481	4,566	- 0.1	- 8.4
New motor vehicle registrations	Dec. 92	no.	49,040	46,323	1.4	12.5
Production						
Manufacturers' sales at 1984-85 prices	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	24,649	24,034	- 0.1	- 0.2
Dwelling unit approvals	Dec. 92	no.	14,051	15,181	7.8	24.2
Building approvals	"	\$m	1,988	2,110	7.2	24.2
Building work done at 1984-85 prices	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	3,919	3,805	- 0.1	0.9
Prices						
Consumer price index	Dec. qtr 92	1989-90 = 100.0	107.9	n.a.	0.5	0.3
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	Nov. 92	1988-89 = 100.0	114.2	n.a.	0.1	2.4
Materials used in manufacturing industries	Nov. 92	1984-85 = 100.0	127.9	n.a.	0.1	6.1
Labour force and demography						
Employed persons (e)	Dec. 92	'000	7,750.1	7,660.6	0.3	0.3
Participation rate † (e)	"	%	63.4	62.7	0.2	- 0.9
Unemployment rate † (e)	"	%	11.3	11.3	0.0	- 0.4
Job vacancies	Nov. 92	'000	29.2	30.2	12.5	17.0
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.20	1.13	2.2	5.9
Estimated resident population at end of qtr	June 92	million	17.5	n.a.	0.2	1.4
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals (d)	Oct. 92	'000	229	222	2.1	6.4
Incomes						
Company profits before income tax	Sept. qtr 92	\$m	4,153	4,077	25.6	37.0
Average weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	Aug. 92	\$	585.80	n.a.	- 0.3	3.2
Financial markets						
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)						
90-day bank bills †	Nov. 92	% per annum	5.85	n.a.	0.0	- 2.40
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	9.15	n.a.	0.30	- 0.65
Exchange rate — \$/US	Dec. 92	per \$A	0.6896	n.a.	- 0.1	- 10.7

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (d) Later figures expected to be released Thursday, 4 February 1993. (e) Later figures expected to be released Thursday, 4 February 1993.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Percentage change from same period previous year										
Key State indicators	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	June qtr 92	-21.5	-10.5	-5.7	-30.8	-3.4	-13.4	n.a.	n.a.	-14.8
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	Nov. 92	2.5	3.9	8.9	-1.8	11.0	6.6	n.a.	6.6	4.8
New motor vehicle registrations†	Dec. 92	23.6	7.5	2.3	19.9	14.1	-9.8	14.1	8.7	12.5
Number of dwelling unit approvals†	Dec. 92	23.1	29.5	25.7	36.2	46.8	13.1	0.0	-8.2	24.1
Value of total building work done	Sept. qtr 92	-7.6	-5.1	12.5	2.4	12.5	-9.5	26.6	11.2	0.0
Employed persons*	Dec. 92	-1.7	-1.2	2.1	0.1	0.7	-1.6	0.0	6.6	0.3
Capital city consumer price index	Dec. 92	0.3	-0.2	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.3
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	Aug. 92	2.6	3.8	2.5	5.8	2.2	2.6	5.0	5.1	3.2
Population	June 92	1.2	1.0	2.4	0.9	1.6	0.9	1.2	2.3	1.4
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	Sept. qtr 92	3.9	2.5	3.7	0.2	2.0	-0.7	-0.7	1.7	2.9

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas, NT and ACT.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 11). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. The ABS should be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of this publication.

